

REMARKS

Claims 3-16 are pending in the present application. Claims 17 and 18 have been cancelled herein.

I. FORMAL MATTERS

Applicant notes with appreciation that the office action includes a copy of the PTO Form 1449 that was submitted in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 14, 2006. Each reference is initialed by the Examiner, thereby indicating that these references were considered by the Examiner and should be listed on the face of any patent that issues from the present application. In addition, the Examiner relied on EP-A-0802503 and EP-A-1079326 in the present office action dated May 1, 2006.

The Notice of Allowance mailed on January 19, 2006 includes a copy of the PTO Form 1449 that was submitted in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on March 24, 2005. However, the Examiner indicated that Chinese Office Action dated December 24, 2004 and English translation thereof was not received. Applicant submits that a copy of this Chinese Office Action and English translation was sent to the

Examiner, as indicated on the post-card dated March 24, 2005.

Nevertheless, Applicant has attached hereto a copy of the Chinese Office Action dated December 24, 2004 and English translation, along with a copy of the PTO SB/08 Form submitted therewith. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to initial this form next to the listing of the Chinese Office Action and send to the undersigned.

II. PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 3-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP-A-0802503 and EP-A-1079326.

Claims 17 and 18 have been cancelled herein. Therefore, this rejection is now moot with respect to claims 17 and 18. Regarding claims 3-16, this rejection is traversed.

The Examiner asserts that "DATA" in Fig. 6 of EP-A-0802503 corresponds to the local bus of the present invention. As set forth in the McGraw-Hill Dictionary of Scientific and Technical Terms, a "bus" is defined as "a circuitry and wiring connecting the various components of a computer through which data are transferred." However, the "DATA" in Fig. 6 of EP-A-0802503 is merely a signal line that connects a "DMA

CONTROLLER” to a “BUFFER MEMORY.” Further, there is a “DATA BUS” in Fig 6 of EP-A-0802503. Therefore, the “DATA” in Fig. 6 of EP-A-0802503 cannot be a “bus.”

Further, Applicant submits that EP-A-0802503 and EP-A-1079326 do not teach or suggest the feature “wherein said local bus is a transferring path of liquid ejection data transferred from said decode unit to a recording head.” This feature enables the local bus to act as an independent data transferring path to a printing head, which increases the data transferring rate and recording speed.

Based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance and allowance is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner believes that the prosecution of this case could be expedited through a telephone interview, he is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the phone number listed below.

Applicant believes that no additional fees are due for the subject application. However, if for any reason a fee is required, a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1105.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Customer No.: 21874



John J. Penny, Jr.

(Reg. No.: 36,984)

EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE LLP

P.O. Box 55874

Boston, Ma 02205

Tel: (617) 517-5549

Fax: (617) 439-4170